

CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. A method for providing patient-specific best medical practices recommendations for a population of patients suspected of having individual members with a risk for at least one preselected medical condition using a central system adapted to customize the recommendations for the individual members, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

a) selecting a population of patients that is suspected of having a higher than normal risk for the preselected medical condition;

b) collecting personal patient information about the individual members that comprises factors that indicate risk of having or developing the preselected medical condition;

c) processing the personal patient information by the central system to provide a patient analysis outcome that reflects risk assessment of the preselected medical condition;

d) collecting patient management information about the individual members that comprises a medical history relevant to the preselected medical condition; and

e) processing the patient management information by the central system to provide a recommendations outcome that reflects best medical practices for future management of the individual members relative to the medical condition.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein steps d) and e) are repeated at least once.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the preselected medical condition is coronary artery disease.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the preselected medical condition is diabetes.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the preselected medical condition is pulmonary disease.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the preselected medical condition is congestive heart failure.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the recommendations outcome is sent to a healthcare provider via mail, e-mail, or is accessible by a healthcare provider over an internet web page.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the central system is pre-programmed with algorithms that allow for customization of output based on professional associations' evidence-based best practices according to the individual member's patient management information.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the personal patient information is collected using a risk assessment survey that is completed by the individual member.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the patient management information is collected using data collection tool that is completed by a healthcare provider.

11. A system for providing patient-specific best medical practices recommendations for a population of patients suspected of having individual members with the risk for at least one preselected medical condition comprising a central system adapted to customize the recommendations for the individual members, or and said system comprises:

a) a CPU programmed to receive and analyze personal patient information that comprises factors that indicate risk of having or developing the preselected medical condition;

b) a first output device adapted to provide patient analysis outcome that reflects risk assessment of the preselected medical condition;

c) a CPU programmed to receive and analyze patient management information about the individual members that comprises a medical history relevant to the preselected medical condition; and

d) a second output device, wherein said second output device is the same or different than the first output device, adapted to provide recommendations outcome that reflects best medical practices for future management of the individual members relative to the medical condition.

12. The system according to claim 11, further comprising at least one central server that is accessible on line and at least one remote access terminal.

13. The system according to claim 11, wherein the output device of (b), (d) or both (b) and (d) further comprises a communications interface capable of transmitting output on-line.

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